Expansion programme of Indian Rare Earths Ltd. in Kerala

3029. SHRI M. A. BABY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to take up the expansion programme of Indian Rare Earths Ltd. in Kerala in the near future;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether any allocation is likely to be made in the Eighth Five Year Plan Period; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In addition to modernisation work already in progress, it is proposed to take up the following schemes during the Eighth Five Year Plan:

(1) A project costing Rs. 150 lakhs for Grinding/Micronising Facility at Chavara for micronising the mineral sillimanite. The work on the project is expected to be taken up in 1990-91.

(2) A project costing Rs. 200 lakhs for recovery of uranium from wet thorium concentrates at Alwaye is proposed to be taken up in 1990-91.

(3) A plant costing Rs. 12 crores for utilising waste sulphuric acid from Travancore Titanium Products (TTP) for leaching ilmenite and producing synthetic rutile is proposed to be taken up in 1991-92.

(c) and (d) The above three schemes have been included in the draft VIII Five Year Plan to be submitted to Government. If finally approved, funds will be provided at the appropriate time.

Memorandum submitted by the Central Leprosy Teaching and Research Institute Employees Association Chengalpattu Tamil Nadu

3030. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a memorandum dated 14.10.88 has been submitted to Government by the Central Leprosy Teaching and Research Institute Employees Association, Chengalpattu, Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether the said memorandum followed the meeting between the Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare and the representatives of the CLTRI Employees Association at Madras on 29.9.88;

(c) what were the items on which discussions took place on 29.9.88;

(d) whether the Association was assured of settlement of the demands by the Minister of State; and

(e) the salient features of the demands contained in the Memorandum dated 14.10.88 and the steps taken by Government to settle them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e) The following three demands were presented by the Association:

(i) Grant of special compensatory allowance;

(ii) Grant of washing allowance to Nursing staff with retrospective effect;

(iii) Grant of Hospital care allowance whereas the demand of Grant of Washing allowance to Nursing Staff from retrospective date has been accepted, the other two demands are being examined in consultation with the other Departments.